



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

79T936

Box 33

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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24 NOVEMBER 1964

~~TOP SECRET~~

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DAILY BRIEF
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1. Congo

Mopping-up operations are being pushed in Stanleyville and its environs. It may take several days for Van Der Walle to clear out all the rebels. The press in Brazzaville says that Gbenye has issued a "last appeal" to African states to send troops and bail him out. A rundown on foreign reaction to the Stanleyville operation forms Annex 1.

2. Italy

A serious political crisis may follow the just completed local elections. A brief survey of the outlook is included as Annex 2.

3. South Vietnam

There were no street disorders in Saigon today, but there are signs that the two most influential Buddhist leaders, Tri Quang and Tam Chau, have agreed on new efforts to topple Huong.

4. Western Europe

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5. UK-MLF

6. Brazil

Pressures on Castello Branco to intervene in Goias state have probably increased in the wake of yesterday's court decision upholding Governor Borges' immunity. As a first step, the President, who wants to keep it strictly legal, is likely to bear down on the state legislature to remove the immunity so that the governor can be brought to trial.

7. Panama

Robles, after winning the first round against student agitation on the Canal issue yesterday, won another important point early today when [redacted] the legislature gave Foreign Minister Eleta a vote of confidence. Nonetheless, Panamanian Communists and other extremists still plan new anti-Robles demonstrations.

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8. Cambodia

Cambodia's tempestuous Prince Sihanouk has reversed himself again. He says he will not partake of talks with either the US or the Asian Communists, both of which have irritated the Prince though for different reasons.

9. USSR-Cuba

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10. Sudan

The new regime has slapped restrictions on overflights of Sudan. This will put a crimp on military flights to South Arabia and the Far East. At the same time, the regime has opened airfields in southern Sudan to Ghanaian and Algerian planes flying supplies to the Congo rebels.

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11. Communist China

Peiping has been reiterating [redacted] that foreign objections to its October nuclear test were "insignificant and prejudiced" and no bar to China's sovereign right to conduct more tests.

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ANNEX 1

World Reaction to the Stanleyville Operation
(As of 1600 EST, 24 November)

Reporting of the news was prompt and full in most capitals. Most governments have been slow to comment, however, and are probably still deciding on the line they will take.

Thus far we have only the following generally predictable reactions:

USSR

Moscow describes the operation as "armed imperialist intervention" aimed at "suppressing the national liberation movement." Moscow "condemns" this and "supports" the African states but hints at no specific Soviet counteraction.

Yugoslavia

Belgrade, too, describes it as foreign military intervention designed to suppress the "liberation movement" and to "further strengthen foreign interests" in the Congo. It says "an action" to stop this foreign intervention now becomes "indispensable."

Arab States

Damascus says the action was carried out under the "pretext" of saving whites. Cairo sees it as an "imperialist plot," and calls on "African forces and freedom-loving people" to extend "material and moral support to all Congolese people." A UAR Foreign Ministry spokesman says the government believes the African foreign ministers should hold "urgent consultations."

African States

The Algerian radio condemned the US, Belgium, and the UK and reminded the "imperialists and colonialists" of the "systematic massacres" for which they have been responsible.

The foreign minister of the Central African Republic, caught by newsmen as he boarded a plane for New York, "deplored foreign intervention in the Congo," a problem the Congolese should handle by themselves with the assistance of "friendly African states."

Ghana called it a "sneak attack" at the "very moment" of negotiations, an "aggression" designed to maintain the Western hold on the Congo's mineral wealth.

A Kenya Government statement merely "regrets" the operation and the loss of life and notes that Jomo Kenyatta's OAU Congo Commission meets on 26 November.

ANNEX 2

The Italian Political Outlook

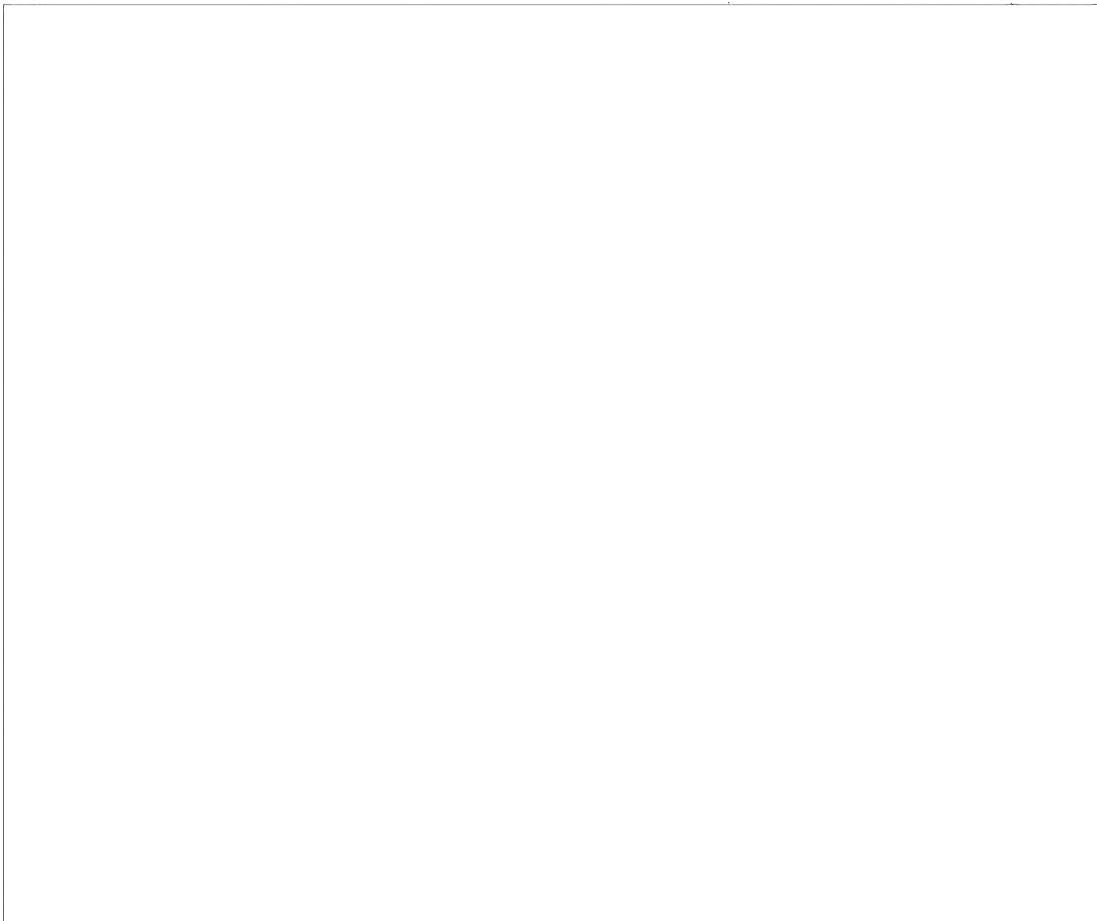
Italy is in for more political instability as a result of the municipal elections this weekend. While the Communists were reaching their postwar high, the Nenni Socialists lost heavily.

As a result, we expect that the many Socialists who were never comfortable in coalition with the bourgeoisie will now step up their drive to get Nenni to withdraw. At a minimum, pressures from the Socialist side for the quick implementation of key parts of the coalition reform program will be stepped up sharply.

Moro will try to cite his party's relatively good showing in the election as justification for moving in this direction. But whether he can carry a majority with him is still open to question. Important party figures who feel that the Socialists have no real alternative are not disposed to compromise.

If Moro should fall, the Christian Democrats will be faced with a Hobson's choice between national elections, in which only the Communists stand to gain, or seeking coalition partners on the right. Such a government would have a short life expectancy and would probably be administratively immobilized by left-wing opposition while it did last.

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